(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to invest Rs. 1700 crores in the automobile sector for upgradation/testing facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the places where such facilities are proposed to be set up especially those falling in Orissa and the time-frame within which these would be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) A National Automotive Testing and Research and Development Infrastructure Project (NATRIP) has been planned for creating much needed automotive testing infrastructure in the country. The project would have main facilities in the three-auto industry hubs located in the northern, southern and western parts of the country. The facilities are expected to help ushering in of global automotive safety, performance and emission standards in India. The expected investment on the project is around Rs. 1700 crore spreads over six years period from the start of the project. The exact locations of these facilities will be decided after consulting all stakeholders and giving due consideration to technical suitability.

Infrastructure Development in Cities

*439. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to show case, not only Mumbai as Shanghai of the country, but to show case India as a modern and fast developing country offering infrastructure facilities comparable to those created in China;

(b) if so, the broad features and details of the plan, indicating phase-wise details and targets conceived thereunder;

(c) the steps taken/being taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As per the Policy outlined in the National Common Minimum Programme of the UPA Government, a comprehensive programme of

urban renewal paying particular attention to the needs of urban poor and development and expansion of physical infrastructure like water supply, sewage treatment and sanitation is proposed to be taken up.

(b) and (c) For this purpose—

(i) A National Urban Renewal Mission (NURM) is proposed to be set up for some selected cities, and

(ii) An omnibus scheme to be known as Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) to cover cities/towns other than those covered under NURM is being drawn up. Details of NURM and UIDSSMT are being finalized.

Sengupta Panel Report

*440. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sengupta Panel Report on greater autonomy for PSEs has submitted its reports to Government;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by this panel in its report;

(c) whether Government have examined all its recommendations; and

(d) if so, what are the steps being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Ad-hoc Group of Experts headed by Dr. Arjun Sengupta has submitted its report to the Government. The recommendations made in the report relate to ownership issues and powers of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), audit of Government companies, vigilance management in CPSEs, etc. The recommendations of the Group are under examination.